



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ST  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/476,386	12/30/1999	DAN A. GERMAN	06042-0160	7757
24728	7590	08/10/2004	EXAMINER	
MORRIS MANNING & MARTIN LLP 1600 ATLANTA FINANCIAL CENTER 3343 PEACHTREE ROAD, NE ATLANTA, GA 30326-1044			PWU, JEFFREY C	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		3628		

DATE MAILED: 08/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	09/476,386	GERMAN ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Jeffrey Pwu	3628	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 5/17/04 amendment.

2a)  This action is **FINAL**.                            2b)  This action is non-final.

3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## **Disposition of Claims**

4)  Claim(s) 63-168 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6)  Claim(s) 63-168 is/are rejected.  
7)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a)  accepted or b)  objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a)  All    b)  Some \* c)  None of:  
1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date . . . . .  
4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_ .  
5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6)  Other: . . . . .

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 63-168 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable over Rose et al. (US 5,757,917).

Rose discloses claims:

A method and system including a buyer computer operated by a buyer, a seller computer operated by a seller, and a transaction facilitator comprising a network-accessible transaction computer that facilitates commercial transactions between buyers and sellers, a method for effecting a cash payment from a buyer to a seller in connection with an online transaction utilizing a payment enabling system operated by a payment enabler, comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

receiving transaction information from the transaction computer in response to a proposed transaction between the buyer and the seller facilitated by the transaction facilitator, the transaction information including a transaction amount (col.2, line 50-col.4, line 24);

communicating information to the buyer computer system for displaying the transaction information and enabling the selection by the buyer of a prearranged cash deposit payment instrument for use in effecting payment in connection with the transaction, the prearranged cash

deposit payment instrument issued by a cash deposit payment instrument processor (col.2, line 50-col.5, line 14);

receiving cash deposit payment instrument information input by the buyer via the buyer computer, the cash deposit payment instrument information including buyer information (14);

determining a required deposit amount including at least the transaction amount and corresponding to the amount of cash that the buyer must deposit with the cash deposit payment instrument processor to fund the prearranged cash deposit payment instrument (col.11, line 33-col.12, line 18);

storing a cash deposit payment instrument registration record in a memory associated with the payment enabling system, the registration record storing the buyer information, the required deposit amount, and a data field indicating whether the required cash deposit has been received by the cash deposit payment instrument processor (col.18, line 55-col.23, line 53);

communicating information to the cash deposit payment instrument processor comprising the required deposit amount and buyer information (fig.6);

in response to receipt of information from the cash deposit payment instrument processor that the required deposit amount has been received at a deposit location registered with the cash deposit payment instrument processor, updating the data field in the registration record indicating that the required deposit amount has been received by the cash deposit payment instrument processor (fig.6); and

in response to updating of the data field in the registration record indicating that the required deposit amount has been received by the cash deposit payment instrument processor, effecting completion of the transaction by making payment to the seller (method steps of figs. 6-7).

***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 63-168 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey Pwu whose telephone number is 703 308-7835. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sam Sough can be reached on 703 308-0505.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Art Unit 3628

**JEFFREY PWU  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**